Volume 28, Edition 8 August 2024

Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club WIRELESS

From Over the Hill

—By Ed W1EJ

My term as President is more than half over so I have been reflecting on my accomplishments or lack thereof. I did not write out a list of "Goals and Objectives" as I had to do when I worked for a large corporation; but I did have some idea of what I wanted to do besides the usual tasks and duties of running the club. We had our meetings, newsletters were published, a great field day happened, a fun hamfest took place, exam sessions were held, and there were weekly nets and breakfasts. These "accomplishments" were a group effort by members of the Board of Directors and volunteers willing to help. I appreciate their help and dedication.

The other area or wish list I had was to get more participation from members outside the core group mentioned above and in my opinion, I have had limited success in that effort. I would like to have more input as to what we can do to make the club more interesting and inclusive. Please let me know your ideas, concerns, complaints, or anything on your mind about the club. Send me an email, a text, call on the phone, or send me an anonymous letter.

My phone number is 707-364-4482, email is woneej@gmail.com, and my address is 842 St Francis Drive in Petaluma. You can also talk to me at our weekly breakfast or at a club meeting, just show up.

*Our August 21st meeting program will be to build a three-element beam antenna using tape measure segments for the elements. There will only be enough materials to build six of them due to the limited workspace. Perhaps rounds of rock scissors paper can determine who gets to keep them. I had also mentioned twin lead J-Poles but decided it would be a little too much. I will bring some twin lead for those who want to "try this at home".

Our September meeting will be our annual picnic on the 22nd at Sugarloaf Ridge State Park. The usual barbecue stuff will be provided by the club, and of course a potluck for salads, desserts, and side dishes.

NEXT MEETING

Wed, **August 21, 2024** at 7:30 PM
City of Sonoma Police Department Meeting Room. 7:30 pm.
Topic: **Building a 3-Element Beam Antenna.**
(See coments above.)*

Minutes of the July 17, 2024 Meeting

ATTENDANCE: MEMBERS ONLINE: KG6QNT (Eileen), KB6CLV (Simon), WA6CRB (Dan), K6YD (Kevin), N6LY (Liz), WB6TMH (Mike), N7TSQ (Joe)

IN PERSON: W1EJ (Ed), KD6FIL (Dave), WD6BOR (Darrel), NJ6E (Stan), N6TTV (Carl), KO6DXF (Don), W8EWL (John), W6MOM (Carla)

Meeting called to order at 1930

Adopt meeting minutes as published in newsletter? Motion made and seconded- Minutes approved as written.

OFFICER REPORTS

NEWSLETTER- Eileen, KG6QNT- Keep sending in news items

ACS – Moe, KI6JNU- KD6FIL Reporting: There will be a Quarterly Leadership Meeting is July 22.

VE LIASON- Elizabeth, N6LY. Next test session will be July 27.

RADIO OFFICER- Mike, WB6TMH- The clubs TS590 checked out and was tested by N6TTV. It is ready for field day. Currently stored at the Sonoma EOC.

TRUSTEE- Darrel, WD6BOR- Traveling

SECRETARY/TREASURER- Dave, KD6FIL- $4686.80 in the bank. Paid the ARRL Club Insurance

VICE PRESIDENT- VACANT (no call) How do we fill this position?

PRESIDENT- Ed, W1EJ- Looking for Net control Volunteers

OLD BUSINESS- None

NEW BUSINESS: Club QSL Cards. Looking for suggestions on a photo and where to get them printed.

DMR Repeater was shipped to Motorola for repairs after work approved by club. Estimated cost $850.

MEETING TOPIC- Delta Loop video.

Next Month – TBD – Bring your handheld VHF radio for fox hunting.

Mystery Box went to W8EWL

—Submitted by Dave KD6FIL

VE Liaison News

—By Elizabeth N6LY

Looking to upgrade or join the Ham Radio Hobby?

Come test with us.

Our next testing session will be on Saturday, October 26, 2024.

Sponsor: Valley of the Moon ARC

When: Saturday, October 26

Time: 10:00 AM

Reservations required.

Contact: Elizabeth Morris-Mowrey (N6LY)

Email: n6ly.emm@gmail.com

Location: Sonoma Police Staton EOC

Sonoma CA 95476

This is a testing session only, we don't offer classes or cram sessions.

If you are testing for a new license, you will be required to pay a $35 fee to the FCC, in addition to the fee below.

Once you pass the test, the FCC will send you an email with a link to pay the fee.

You will need to send in payment in order to receive your license and call sign.

This does not apply to upgrades.

Candidate Requirements:

- A photo identification or (2) non-photo ID's
- FCC Registration Number
- Original and a photocopy of your current license (if licensed)
- Any original valid CSCEs and a photocopy of each
- Exam fee is $15.00, Under 18 is $5.00

Why Test With Us?

Every candidate who takes an FCC examination with VOMARC is entitled to a free year of membership in the club, regardless of whether you pass or not! Each applicant is also provided with a welcome kit of some helpful information on how to get started on their Amateur Radio adventure

Misc

- The Pennsylvania Railroad used to employ a train telephone system which used induction to provide radio-like functionality for communications.

- MIT Press has published an excerpt from the book "Ham Radio's Technical Culture".an excerpt from the book "Ham Radio's Technical Culture".

- IEEE Spectrum reports on the Quansheng UV-K5, the world's most hackable handheld.

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

Summit Activation of Hull Mountain and Big Signal Peak

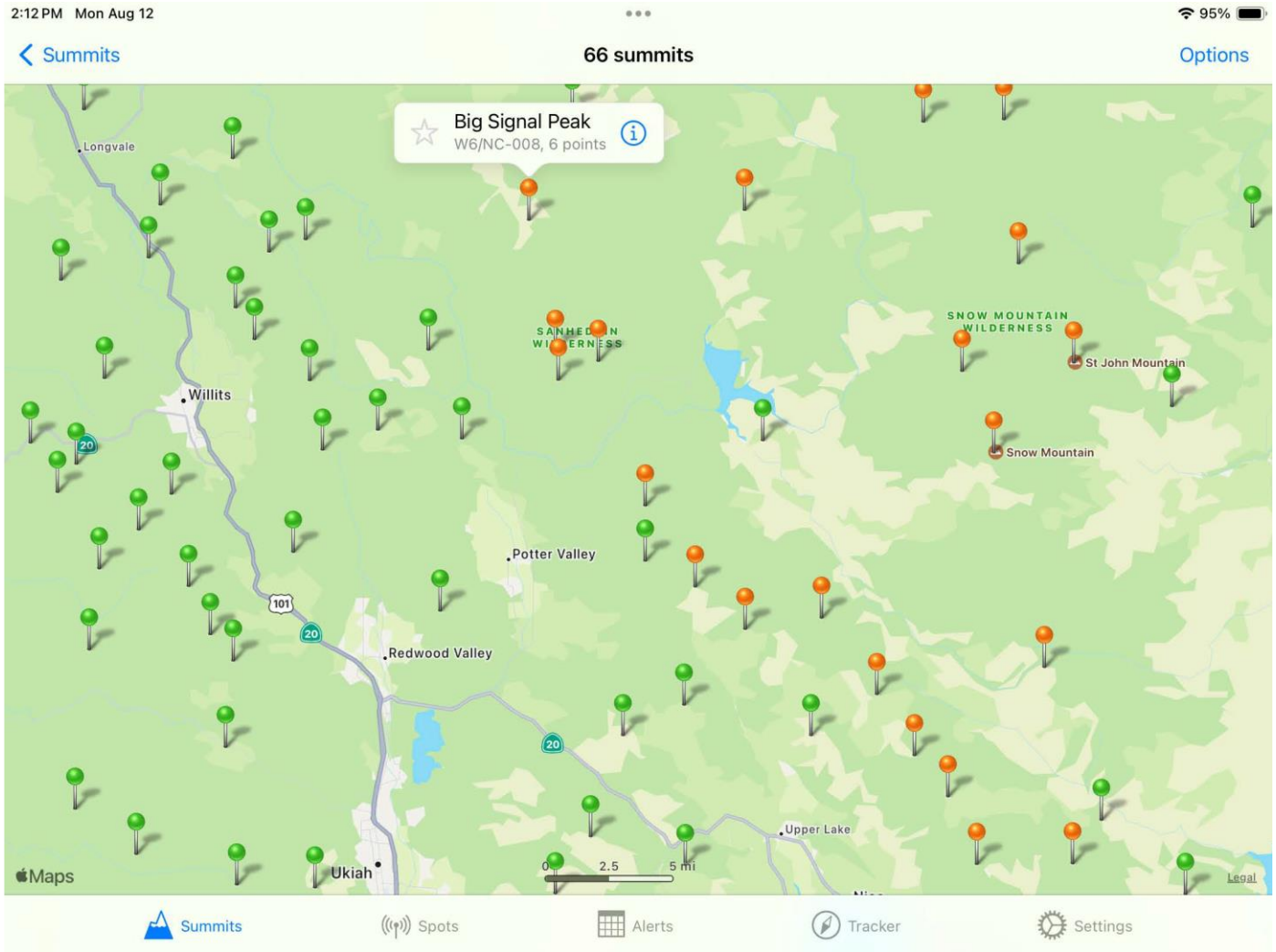
—Submitted by Dave KD6FIL

Summits on the Air (SOTA) is an award scheme for radio amateurs that encourages portable operation in mountainous areas. Check out **https://www.sota.org.uk/** for more information.

W1EJ and I activated Hull Mountain and Big Signal Peak on August 6, 2024. The mountains are both worth 6 points for activators. They are located in the Mendocino National Forest (Parks on the Air US-4460) north of Lake Pilsbury. The adventure started at 6 AM in Cotati and headed north. After a gas stop in Ukiah, we drove through Potter Valley and crossed the Eel River and left the paved roads

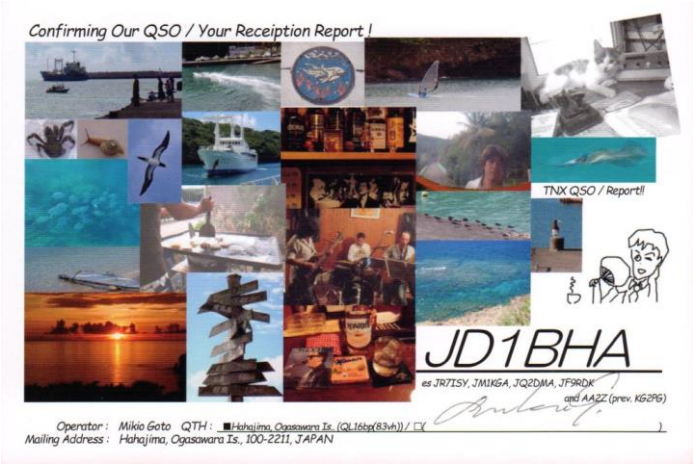
End Fed Halfwave Antenna strung way to low to the ground. Then we packed up and drove about 40 miles of questionable dirt roads to Big Signal Peak. We did not get a photo of the bear that ran in front of the jeep just before we got to the summit. It looks like the building at the summit was an old fire lookout that was converted into a microwave radio repeater. 7 more contacts on the summit and we drove back home back the same questionable roads. It was a long day driving through amazing country with great views. We passed 4 cars all day driving the dirt roads.

behind. 23 miles later we made it to the top of Hull Mountain, the site of a former fire lookout. All that is left is the foundation. We operated for about 2.5 hours and I made 6 contacts on FT8 using my Yaesu FT817 with a small laptop and an



QSL Card Inbox

This was an ATNO (All Time New One) for me. I worked FO/SP5EAQ on the Austral Islands in the Pacific using CW on the 20M, 15M and 10M bands.



And here's another ATNO. This card confirms an FT8 contact with JD1BHA on 20M. I made the QSO from my home station. Ogasawara is an island in the middle of the Pacific that strangely is technically within the city limits of Tokyo.

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

THE VOMARC WIRELESS

VOLUME 28 EDITION 8

A PUBLICATION OF VOMARC, THE VALLEY OF THE MOON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF

Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Ed Jacobson, W1EJ – President

– Vice President

Dave Dammuller, KD6FIL – Secretary/Treasurer

Mike Miller, WB6TMH – Radio Officer

Moe Llanes, KI6JNU – ACS Unit Leader

Elizabeth Morris-Mowrey, N6LY – VE Liaison

Darrel Jones, WD6BOR – Station Trustee for W6AJF

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Editor

Robert Barron, KA5WSS — Webmeister

"Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC. "—S. Marler

WEB PAGE: **http://www.vomarc.org/**

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

Breakfast Nets are held every Tuesday and Saturday morning at 7:30 AM on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

Eileen@vom.com

—or—

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.
C/O Sonoma Police Department
175 First Street West
Sonoma, CA 95476

ACS

NET CONTROL ASSIGNMENTS

	Name	Call
JANUARY	MOE	KI6JNU
FEBRUARY	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
MARCH	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
APRIL	JIM	K6UUW
MAY	DICK	KF6FZM
JUNE	MOE	KI6JNU
JULY		
AUGUST	BILL	KJ6EIG
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	KF6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

VOMARC

NET CONTROL ASSIGNMENTS

	Name	Call
JANUARY	ROBERT	KA5WSS
FEBRUARY	DARREL	WD6BOR
MARCH	MOE	KI6JNU
APRIL	DAVE	KD6FIL
MAY	ED	W1EJ
JUNE	FRANK	KG6N
JULY	ED	W1EJ
AUGUST	CARL	N6TTV
SEPTEMBER	ED	WIEJ
OCTOBER	JOHN	W8EWL
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP 2024

Membership Dues: $15/year individual; $5/year family member at same address.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

VOMARC Membership: Complimentary with Class—Date: _____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen:

Dues may be mailed to VOMARC in care of the Sonoma Police Department, 175 1st St West, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC.**